

# The Hawai'i Congressional Papers Collection



at the  
University  
of Hawai'i  
at Mānoa  
Library

*"I have made my own personal commitment to UH by pledging to donate my congressional papers to the University. I hope to enrich Hawaii's history for future generations, because the story contained in those papers is, in part the story of the people of Hawaii. We need to secure UH's future because in doing so, we are securing our own."*

SENATOR DANIEL K. INOUE  
DECEMBER 2000



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the heart of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Library's many important programs lies its responsibility for gathering and caring for a wide range of publications and papers that comprise part of Hawai'i's documentary heritage, to make them available for research and study today and in years to come. The private papers of Hawai'i's Members of Congress are part of this documentary heritage.

- In 1996, the papers of only two out of ten of Hawai'i's current and past Members were officially held in public repositories in Hawai'i. Uncertainty about disposition of the others meant that Hawai'i might lose an unusual opportunity to bring together *most* of the papers into one public institution within the state.
- In 1998 a public repository, the "Hawai'i Congressional Papers Collection" at UHM Library, was proposed to keep the papers in Hawai'i where they mean the most, and where they could provide a research base for related academic programs focusing on issues pertaining to American and Hawai'i history, public policy, government and democracy.
- The repository would encourage past, present and future Members to confirm Hawai'i as the location for final disposition of their papers—thereby saving Hawai'i's researchers and interested citizens the expense and difficulty of locating materials scattered on the Mainland.

- The repository would protect the papers from risk of loss due to improper storage or lack of preservation treatment; facilitate efficient and complete access to them; and meet national standards for archival preservation and services.
- The repository would establish partnerships with other institutions holding Hawai'i Members' papers or related materials to facilitate access, especially through digital links on the World Wide Web.
- Cornerstones for the "Hawai'i Congressional Papers Collection" were laid with the gifts of the Senator Spark M. Matsunaga Papers and the Senator Hiram L. Fong Papers. In 2001 the Thomas P. Gill Papers were donated. Preliminary processing has been supported in part by endowment and expendable funds provided by the donors.
- Senator Daniel K. Inouye has recently designated UHM Library as the future recipient of his papers. The Library invites other Members to make a similarly valuable contribution to the University and to the scholarly and educational resources of the state. We seek the endorsement, participation, and financial support of all the remaining current and past Members for this timely and significant program.

# Hawai'i's Congressional Senators and Representatives, 1959–

## SENATE

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**Oren E. Long** D

August 21, 1959–January 3, 1963

*Papers deposited in Hawai'i State  
Archives*

**Hiram L. Fong** R

August 21, 1959–January 3, 1977

*Papers deposited in UHM Library*

**Daniel K. Inouye** D

January 3, 1963–

*Papers promised to UHM Library*

**Spark M. Matsunaga** D

January 3, 1977–April 15, 1990

*Papers deposited in UHM Library*

**Daniel K. Akaka** D

May 16, 1990–

*Papers promised to Kamehameha  
Schools*

## HOUSE

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**Daniel K. Inouye** D

August 21, 1959–January 3, 1963<sup>1</sup>

*Papers promised to UHM Library*

**Spark M. Matsunaga** D

January 3, 1963–January 3, 1977

*Papers deposited in UHM Library*

**Thomas P. Gill** D

January 3, 1963–January 3, 1965

*Papers deposited in UHM Library*

**Patsy T. Mink** D

January 3, 1965–January 3, 1977

January 3, 1991–September 28, 2002

**Cecil Heftel** D

January 3, 1977–July 11, 1986

**Daniel K. Akaka** D

January 3, 1977–May 15, 1990

*Papers promised to Kamehameha  
Schools*

**Neil Abercrombie** D

September 20, 1986–January 3, 1987

January 3, 1991–

**Patricia F. Saiki** R

January 3, 1987–January 3, 1991

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<sup>1</sup> In 1959, Hawai'i qualified for one representative in the House. By the 1962 elections, with an increase in population, Hawai'i qualified for two representatives.

The seal of the University of Hawaii is a circular emblem. It features a globe with latitude and longitude lines. In the center of the globe is a torch with a flame, and behind the torch is an open book. The book has the words "MA LA MA LAMA" written on its pages. The year "1907" is inscribed at the bottom of the globe. The outer ring of the seal contains the text "UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII" at the top and "KE EA O KA AINA I KA PO" at the bottom.

# Introducing the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Library

The Library serves as the major research library in the State and as the information resource facility for both the Mānoa campus and for the other UH System campuses. One of its deepest commitments is to gather, preserve, and make accessible those materials, not already cared for by other Hawai'i institutions, that comprise Hawai'i's documentary heritage—our legacy for following generations.

To fulfill this part of its mission, the Library has collected and maintained the strongest collections of published Hawaiiana in the world, in all media. In addition, it holds unique unpublished and archival collections including: the Hawai'i War Records Depository; the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association Plantation Archives; the Hawaiian Pineapple Company/Dole Corporation Archives; and the Jean Charlot Collection.

The Library has received already the congressional papers of the late Senator Spark M. Matsunaga (October 1997), Senator Hiram L. Fong (July 1998), and Representative Thomas P. Gill (May 2001), as well as a commitment from Senator Daniel K. Inouye to deposit his papers in future. With these gifts, the Library established its program to collect, preserve, and house Hawai'i's Congressional Members' papers considered of permanent historical value, ensuring they return to Hawai'i to be made available for public use, rather than being scattered in various Mainland locations.

The Library is well qualified to embark on this program. Its Hawaiian resources are a significant component of the total holdings which include over 3.12 million volumes, 5.9 million microform units, 6,200 linear feet of manuscripts and archives, 48,000 audiovisual units, 250,000 maps/aerial photographs, and 26,700 serial/journal titles currently received.

The Library is the State's major depository for federal government documents, a necessary complement to any congressional papers collection. It is also a depository for selected state and local government documents and for the publications of the United Nations and other international organizations.

Services and collections are housed in two buildings, Hamilton Library and Sinclair Library. The Library has a staff of 143 (full-time equivalent). Total operating expenditures from all sources of funds were slightly more than \$12 million in 1999-2000 for materials, supplies, personnel and contracts.

The Library is a member of the nation's premier research library organizations, the Association of Research Libraries and the Research Libraries Group, whose members cooperate to develop and fund archival preservation and access, cataloging, digitizing, and other joint technological and professional projects.

The Library has an active and well-equipped Preservation Department that provides a wide range of custom conservation/

preservation treatments for library materials, and also has the capability for preservation-quality reformatting of endangered originals into different media, including archival microfilm production.

The University's online bibliographic network provides library automation software for the online public catalog, circulation services, and acquisitions functions for all libraries in the UH System. The Library provides assistance and education in information retrieval. It facilitates electronic access to remote databases at other academic institutions, government agencies, and commercial providers, as well as contributing its own records to global networked information resources.

During the academic semester, approximately 8,000 patrons enter the Library buildings each day. Among them are students, researchers and interested citizens who wish to conduct their study and research into Hawai'i's post-statehood history and politics by using valuable primary sources, namely congressional papers. This program makes it possible for them to do so.





## Hawai'i's Congressional Papers: **THE PRESENT**

Over 1,700 men and women have served in the U.S. Senate and over 10,000 have served in the U.S. House of Representatives. The historical materials left by many of these individuals represent a resource of great value. In recent years, Congress has taken an active role to reduce the random and often haphazard dispersal that has made them inaccessible in the past and prevented scholars from recreating comprehensive accounts of certain aspects of American legislative history. Members are advised on record management. They are strongly encouraged to select a location for the future disposition of their papers and begin working with the repository staff as early as possible in their careers.<sup>2</sup> Today, Senate-related collections are held in over 590 repositories. While approximately 600 repositories hold material on 3,300 former Members of the House, the whereabouts of the papers of many more (including some from Hawai'i) are as yet undocumented.<sup>3</sup>

In states where historical societies and state or other large public libraries do not have the resources or an already long-established tradition of collecting, some of the most significant repositories are university and college libraries (over 100 currently house congressional papers).<sup>4</sup> For example, the University of Alaska at Fairbanks, University of Georgia at Athens, Boston College, Carnegie Mellon University, University of Arizona at Tucson, the State University of New York at Stonybrook, University of Washington in Seattle, and the University of Vermont are among

those that received significant recent federal, state or private support for housing and processing congressional papers.

During World War II, the importance of Hawai'i to the nation became apparent. Hawai'i sent only ten Territorial Delegates to Congress between 1900 and 1959. Since admission to the Union as a State in August 1959, Hawai'i, small in size and population, has been represented by only ten elected Members. Compared to other states, the significance of their contributions in the arena of American democracy has been and continues to be disproportionate to their numbers.

At the national and international levels, they have had a significant impact on issues relating to defense, peace, human and civil rights, tropical agricultural industries, immigration and naturalization, and energy, for example. Their efforts on behalf of Hawai'i and their own constituents are a crucial part of the story of state-federal relationships. As individuals of different ethnic backgrounds they participated in breaking racial barriers against minorities. As role models, their stories, their ideals and vision inspire students and future legislators, and attract biographers and historians. For these reasons, their personal papers constitute a potentially rich research and information resource.

The papers of all the Territorial Delegates are secured in the Hawai'i State Archives, except those of Robert Wilcox (served 1900-1903) and William Jarrett (1923-1926). However, the papers of Hawai'i's present and former Members of Congress *do not fall within the current collection mandate of the Hawai'i State Archives*. Where are they? Where will they go?

1. Today, the papers of only four Members are held officially in public repositories in Hawai'i (Hiram L. Fong, Thomas P. Gill, Oren E. Long, Spark M. Matsunaga). Some of the papers of a fifth Member (Patsy T. Mink) are placed in two

Mainland institutions because suitable facilities were not available in Hawai'i at the time they were offered.

2. Senator Daniel K. Inouye has designated the Library as the future recipient of his papers. Senator Daniel K. Akaka has designated Kamehameha Schools as his future repository.
3. Unless the papers of the others are secured and preserved in Hawai'i soon, the people of the state risk losing an important part of their documentary heritage concerning statehood, state-federal relations, and their Members' contributions to national/ international affairs affecting Hawai'i in particular, and the United States in general. The people most affected are:
  - Hawai'i's students and faculty studying American and Hawai'i's history, public policy, government and politics since statehood
  - Professional and amateur biographers, writers, lawyers, election campaign workers, etc. for whom this unpublished primary source material is a major resource
  - The Hawai'i community at large which benefits indirectly, learning about its own past through the programs, exhibitions, books, and other publications created by the users of the papers.
4. The opportunity to hold within the state and in one major public location most of the papers created since statehood is unusual (and possible only because Hawai'i is a young state) but may be weakened without the participation of the presently uncommitted members.

5. Until the Library established its proactive program, Hawai'i's Members (who are individually responsible for determining the fate of their own papers) had no easily identifiable, sufficiently large repository that would encourage them to consider Hawai'i as the location for final disposition of their papers.
6. In Hawai'i, whatever their cultural heritage, people respond with deep emotion to physical items that bear the weight of history. They carry these items as part of their memories, honor them, and share that response with their children as they pass the memories on. The community reaction to the 1996 gift dedication ceremony for the transfer of the HSPA Plantation Archives to the Library is a clear example. The deposit of congressional papers outside Hawai'i would be a tangible emotional loss, in that Hawai'i's people would be deprived of the direct physical contact through which they have demonstrated they remember and communicate a part of their history.

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<sup>2</sup> See for example "Closing a Congressional Office: a guide to the disposition of official papers and records" Prepared by the Office of the Clerk, U.S. House of Representatives, [1997]

<sup>3</sup> *Guide to research collections of former Members of the United States House of Representatives, 1789-1987*. Washington, D.C.: Office for the Bicentennial of the United States House of Representatives, United States House of Representatives, 1988; and *Guide to research collections of former United States Senators, 1789-1995*. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1995.

<sup>4</sup> In July 2001, over 50 colleges and universities were listed in "Congressional Collections at Archival Repositories" at [http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/c\\_clctns.html](http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/c_clctns.html)



## Hawai'i's Congressional Papers: **THE FUTURE**

The Library's Congressional Papers Collection offers an ongoing program that seeks the endorsement, participation, and support of the Members themselves, to ensure that Hawai'i's congressional papers do not become further scattered across the country, but are returned to Hawai'i at times appropriate in each Member's career to be made available for public use. This program will:

1. Enable Hawai'i's past, present and future Members to place their papers in Hawai'i in an archival repository staffed and equipped according to national standards, to provide archival management to preserve, organize, and offer appropriate access to the papers.
2. Allow Hawai'i's community of students, researchers and interested citizens to conduct their study and research into Hawai'i's post-statehood history and politics efficiently using valuable primary sources without having the expense and difficulty of traveling away from the state.
3. Enable out-of-state researchers to locate and obtain services relating to Hawai'i congressional materials by contacting one major centralized repository.
4. Elevate the people's awareness and appreciation of Hawai'i's recent history by sharing the materials,

particularly memorabilia, with the community through exhibitions and public programs (TV, video, etc.), as well as publication and by literally preserving the physical documents themselves.

5. Complement the collections and activities of the Hawai'i State Archives by ensuring that important documents outside the scope of the Archives are preserved.
6. Promote access to finding aids through digital media and the World Wide Web. Partner with other institutions (Hawai'i State Archives, Wichita State University, Smith College, Kamehameha Schools) that hold or plan to acquire related materials to facilitate access to these materials also.
7. Provide a research base for related academic programs within the University that focus on issues pertaining to history, public policy, government and democracy especially from the perspective of post-statehood Hawai'i. A growing number of universities are sponsoring congressional research and study centers that expand upon the archival mission to collect and preserve congressional collections.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> In July 2001, twenty two university-based centers were listed in "Congressional Research Centers" at <http://raven.cc.ukans.edu/~dole/pages/congressional.shtml>



## Hawai'i's Congressional Papers: **THE PROGRAM**

An Addition to the Hamilton Library building was opened in April 2001. The upper floors provide space for permanent housing of congressional papers as part of the Library's archival holdings.

All papers donated will be processed according to standard methodologies and published best practice as outlined in the Library's established policies and guidelines. Many departments of the Library will be involved besides the archival staff. The steps might take several years, depending on the size and condition of the gift, and financial support available. Typically, the Library would:

1. Sign in advance a memorandum of understanding with the Member.
2. Obtain or prepare a summary inventory of the papers, and negotiate a deed of gift.
3. Provide furniture, equipment, shelving and files suitable for archival storage. Provide archival staff office and work areas. Hire temporary staff as appropriate.
4. Collect the papers from the custody of the Member. Treat for insect infestation as needed.
5. List, review, and distribute non-archival materials such as published books and government documents.

6. Conduct appraisal against archival retention criteria to determine materials to be retained in toto, sampled, or disposed.
7. Determine physical arrangement and preservation treatments—in general, retain series and sequences in original (usually chronological) order; label accordingly; re-house materials in acid-free, archival quality containers; make additional preservation assessments for microfilming, and for audio, film, video and photo materials.
8. Process, describe and inventory the papers using standard archival methods; prepare finding aids and other corollary materials such as scope, contents and biographical notes, staff lists, and a general history of the Member's office.
9. Contribute a cataloging record for the papers to the Library's online catalog and the National Union Catalog of Manuscripts (via the Research Libraries Information Network database).
10. Promote use of the papers by issuing a guide, notifying the appropriate House and Senate offices for inclusion in their databases, making the information available in electronic form on the World Wide Web, preparing exhibits, and conducting community outreach.

The Library's archival staff have obtained additional training by attendance at programs conducted by the Society for American Archivists, including those focused on management of congressional papers collections.

Services of experienced consultants will be sought in specific areas, such as training in Encoded Archival Description (EAD), the newly developing standard for electronic formatting of archival finding aids designed to facilitate online information sharing.





## Hawai'i's Congressional Papers: **THE RESOURCES**

The Library devotes space, equipment and facilities, and some of the necessary staff expertise from its various departments to collect and preserve Hawai'i congressional papers. Ultimately the success of this undertaking depends on the participation and additional financial support not only of the Members themselves, but also of their families and supporters.

The gift of a Member's papers, accompanied by a donation of expendable funds for initial processing, and also an endowment towards ongoing user services and support—and possibly for future expansion of the physical facilities housing the University of Hawai'i Library Congressional Papers Collection—offers an ideal arrangement and model for future acquisitions.

The establishment of the Congressional Papers Collection adds a major resource to a Library that has a solid base already and a strong future. The Library is an institutional priority within the University. Through its part in University fundraising activities, the Library expects to strengthen its overall support base. It actively seeks funds for endowments for collections and innovative uses of both traditional and electronic Library resources, as well as support for advancement of information technology applications.

Current Members are invited to make their commitment to the University now, and to begin planning together with the Library for their legacy to the people of Hawai'i.

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